In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows.

Please cancel claims 1-15 and 19-21.

Remarks

Prior Restriction Requirements

The claims of the original application, U.S. Serial No. 08/289,699 filed August 12, 1994, by Kenji Fukudome and Charles T. Esmon entitled "Cloning and Regulation of an Endothelial Cell Protein C/activated Protein C Receptor", which issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,695,993, with claims drawn to nucleic acid molecules that encode the endothelial cell protein C/activated protein C receptor and expression vectors that express these molecules.

The claims in U.S. Serial No. 08/878, 283, filed on June 18, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,852,171, was a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 08/289,699, filed August 12, 1994 by Kenji Fukudome and Charles T. Esmon entitled "Cloning and Regulation of an Endothelial Cell Protein C/activated Protein C Receptor", and issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,695,993, with claims drawn to isolated endothelial cell protein C/activated protein C receptor proteins.

This is a divisional of these applications.

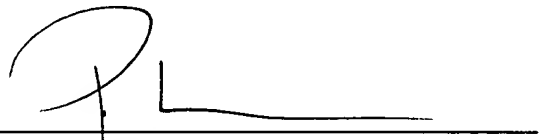
The original parent application was restricted requirement into eight groups: Group I, claims 1-6, drawn to a receptor protein; Group II, claims 7-13, drawn to a nucleic acid encoding a receptor; Group III, claims 14 and 15, drawn to a nucleic acid probes; group IV, claims 16 and 17, drawn to a method for enhancing an inflammatory response; Group V, claim 18, drawn to a

method of inhibiting an inflammatory response; Group VI, claims 19-21, drawn to an antibody to a receptor; Group VII, drawn to an *in vitro* screening method; and Group VIII, drawn to methods for screening patients. Groups II and III were then combined into the same group and prosecuted, ultimately issuing in United States Patent No. 5,695,993. Divisional application U.S. Serial Number 08/878,283 was filed June 18, 1997 and issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,852,171 with the claims of Group I, claims 1-6.

Group VI, claims 15-21, are currently being prosecuted in U.S. Serial No. 09/182,616, filed on October 29, 1998. The claims of Groups IV, V, VII, and VIII are currently pending in the present application upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment. It is believed these claims should be examined together.

A copy of the claims as pending upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment is attached in an appendix for the convenience of the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX: PENDING CLAIMS

16. A method for enhancing an inflammatory response involving blocking of protein C or activated protein C binding to an endothelial cell protein C/activated protein C receptor comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment thereof an amount of a compound blocking binding of protein C or activated protein C to the receptor. tumors

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of antibodies and fragments of antibodies to the receptor, nucleic acid sequences inhibiting expression of the receptor, and synthetic or natural compounds other than proteins, peptides or nucleic acid sequences which inhibit binding.

18. A method for inhibiting an inflammatory response involving administration of a compound selected from the group consisting of EPCR or EPCR fragments and substances that upregulate EPCR expression to a patient in need of treatment thereof.

22. A method for screening for a compound which alters the binding of an endothelial receptor protein to protein C or activated protein C comprising providing an assay for binding of protein C or activated protein C to the receptor protein,

adding the compound to be tested to the assay, and

determining if the amount of protein C or activated protein C which is bound to the receptor protein is altered as compared to binding in the absence of the compound to be tested.

23. A method for screening patients for abnormal receptor protein activity or function comprising

determining the presence of an endothelial cell surface receptor binding protein C and activated protein C, and

comparing the receptor to determine if the quantity present or the function of the receptor is equivalent to that present in normal cells.